

Dear FCC:

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

I am vigorously opposed to consolidation of the media. The FCC should be working to create and maintain a large, vocal, non-consolidated media in our country. Media is NOT an ordinary business like making cars. It plays a vital role in our very way of life, our democracy. What has been happening is a privatizing of a public entity. Selling off this vital resource to the highest bidder is not proper.

We see the results. A Fox "News" channel that is a pure propaganda tool for one party, mis-educating the public in a way designed to support that party, who in turn promotes the interests of huge corporations to the detriment of the public, natural resources, the financial health of the nation and more.

There has been a clever take over of this country, not yet totally completed, but well on the way. This take over and the forces behind it are completely antithetical to values as laid down by the Founders.

I urge the FCC to stop media consolidation, and work vigorously to find and implement ways to break media outlets up and spread them across the land. Work to establish communications that provide every point of view an avenue for expression.

As a part of our government, FCC has an obligation to look for ways to improve this country for the people, and not simply look for ways to assist large corporations to make more money.

Thank you.

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